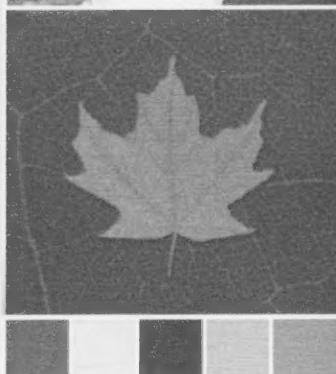
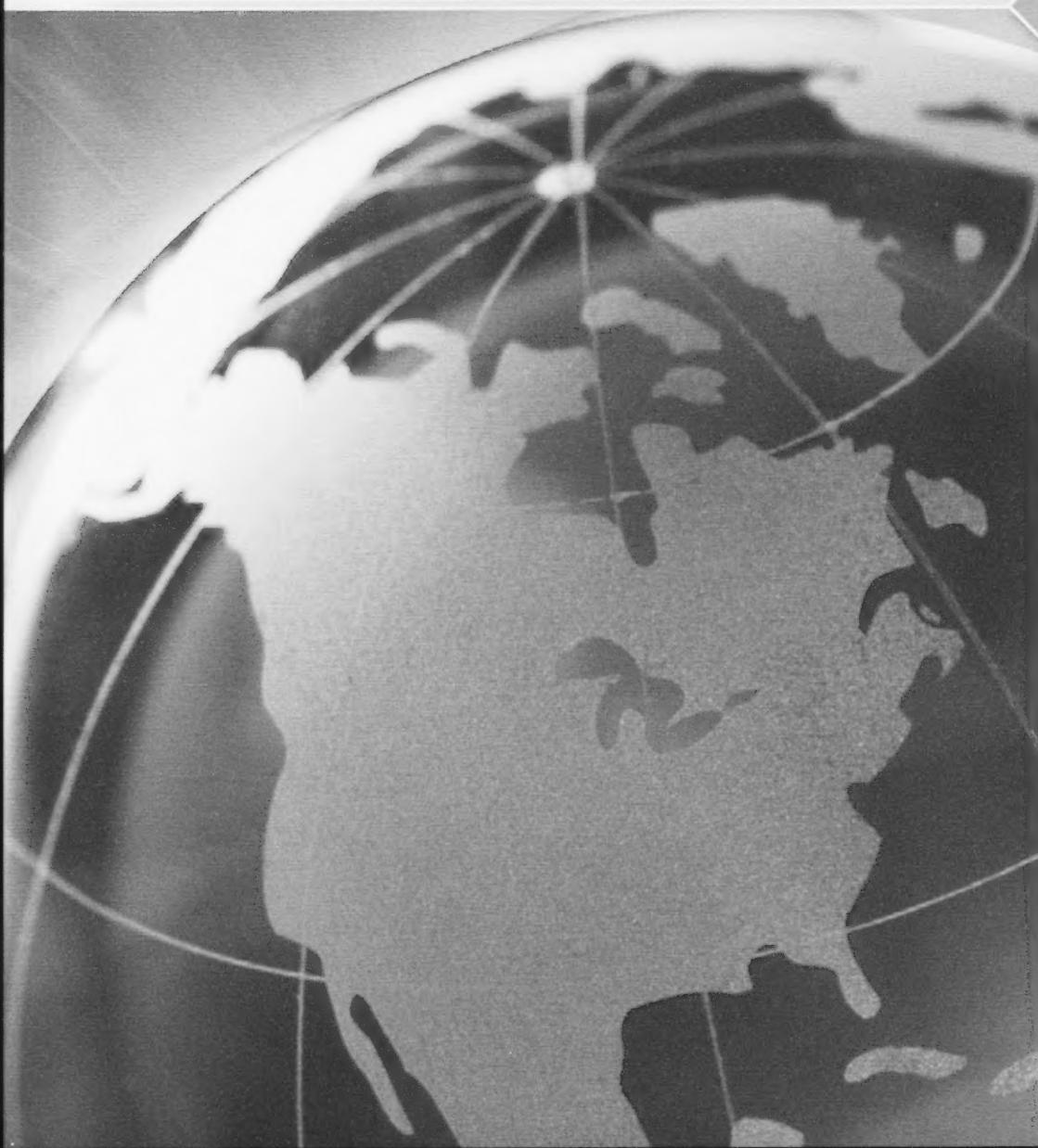




Citizenship and
Immigration Canada Citoyenneté et
Immigration Canada

ANNUAL REPORT to Parliament on Immigration

2010



Canada

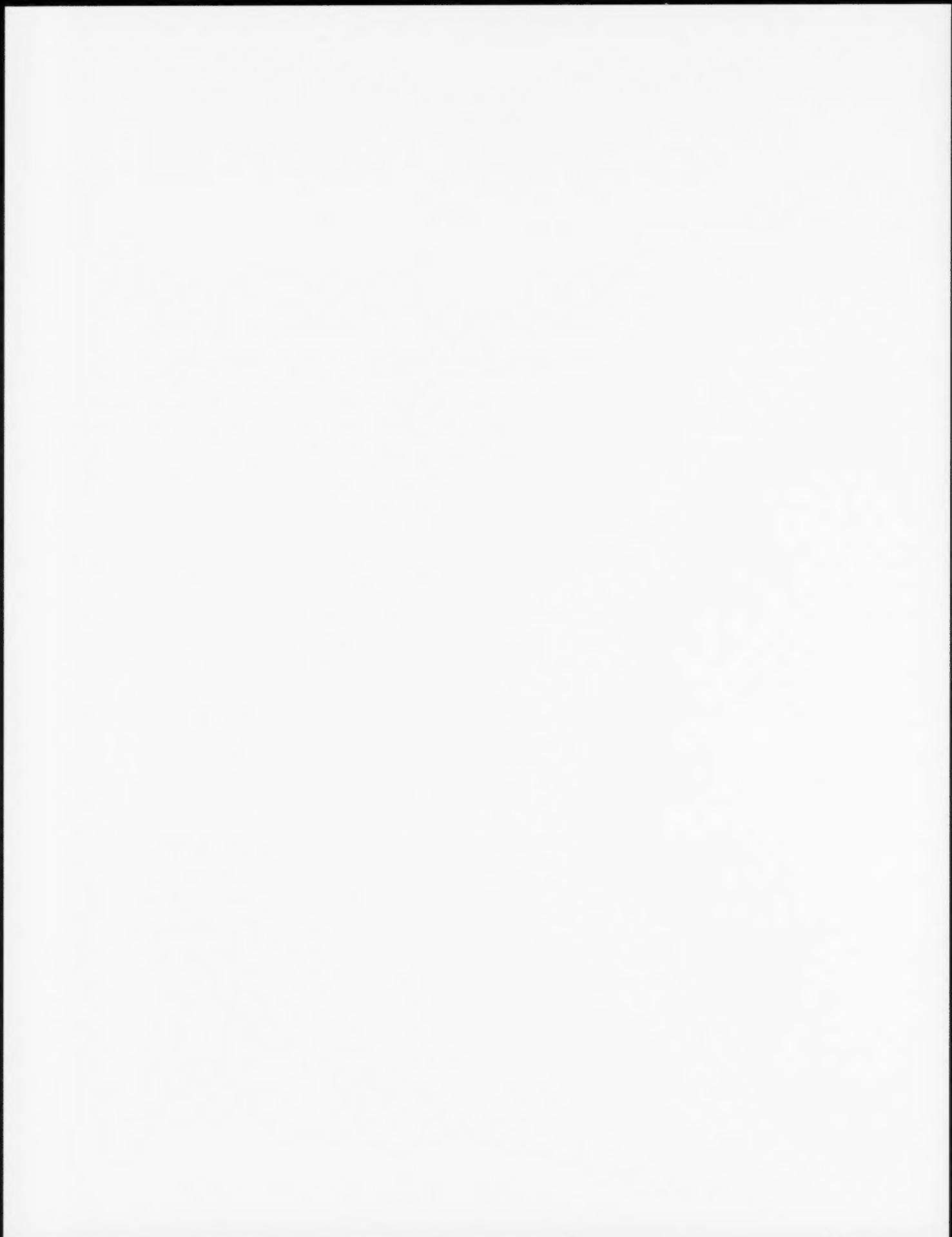
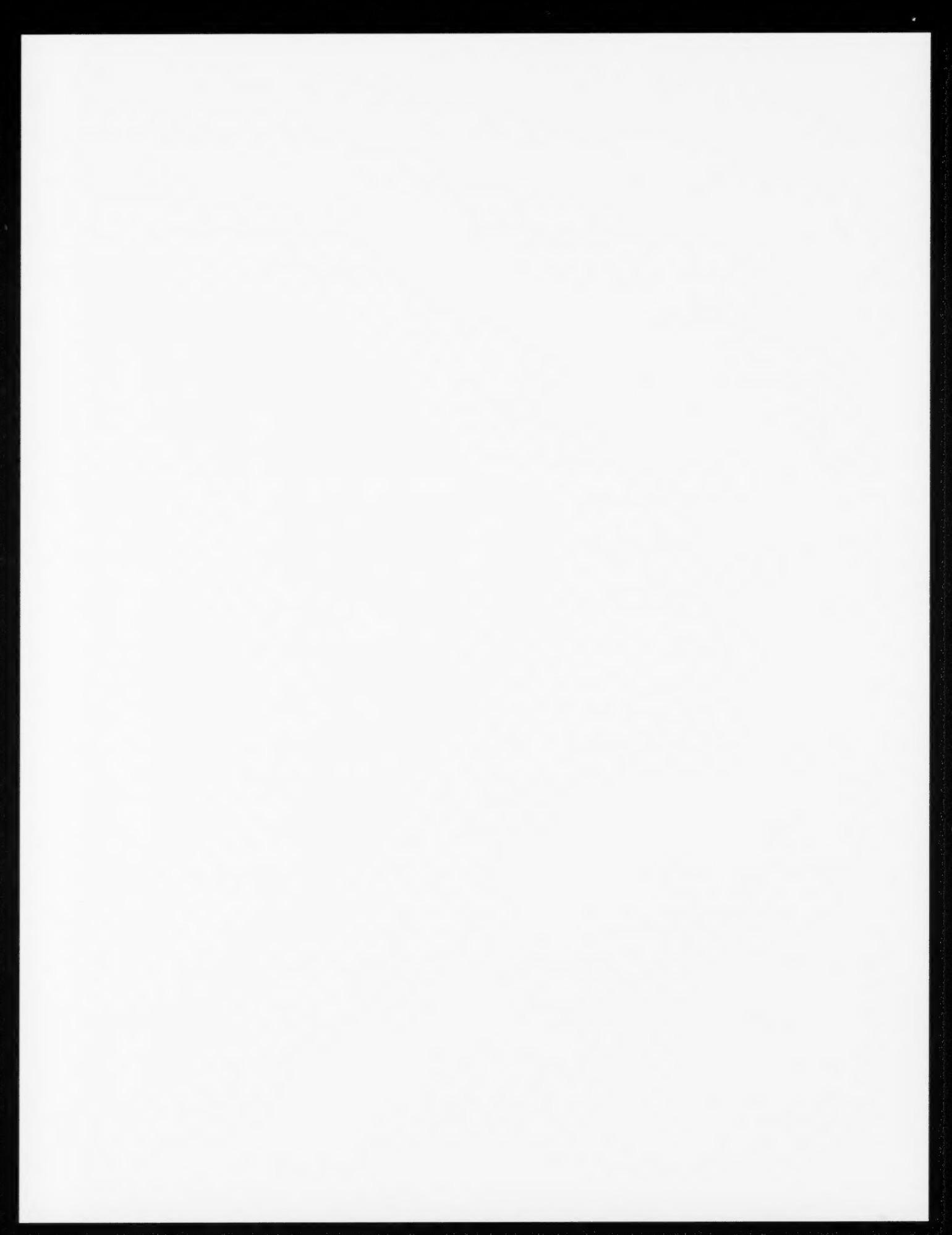


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Message from the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

I am pleased to present the *Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2010*.

Canada has a proud tradition of welcoming newcomers from around the world, and immigration has made an important contribution to the building of our country. In 2009, while other countries scaled back immigration during tough economic times, we maintained historically high immigration levels, attracting more than a quarter of a million permanent residents as we began to recover from the downturn.

The year 2009 was the first full year of operation of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration, which allows new federal skilled worker applications to be assessed according to Canada's labour market needs. This Action Plan is paying off: as of March 31, 2010, the overall inventory of federal skilled worker applications has been reduced by 16 percent, and processing times have improved, with the majority of new applications processed in six to 12 months.

In order to support our economy as it continues to recover from the downturn, we adjusted Canada's immigration plan for 2010 to increase economic immigration and help ensure employers have the workers they need to supplement our domestic labour supply. In 2010, we will again welcome more than a quarter of a million permanent residents from all over the world. In fact, admissions will likely be at the upper end of the range of 240,000 to 265,000, allowing more immigrants in the economic category than originally planned. In 2011, we intend to welcome between 240,000 and 265,000 permanent residents.

We maintained our commitment to family reunification, introducing special immigration measures that allowed families affected by the January earthquake in Haiti to be reunited in Canada through early admissions and priority processing measures.

We also continued to uphold our long-standing and proud humanitarian tradition by offering protection in Canada to more than 22,000 refugees in 2009, including more than 12,000 refugees resettled from abroad. Working with the international community, we resettled close to a thousand Bhutanese in 2009 as part of our multi-year commitment to bring to Canada up to 5,000 Bhutanese refugees who have been living in United Nations camps in Nepal. In response to ongoing appeals for additional resettlement support to the displaced Iraqi population, we resettled more than 4,000 Iraqi refugees last year.

In addition, we pursued reforms to improve Canada's asylum system, culminating in the introduction in March 2010, and subsequent passage into law in June 2010, of the *Balanced Refugee Reform Act*. The Act's implementation will mean faster protection for those who truly need it and faster removals of those who do not. The Government has also made significant progress since 2009 in filling vacancies on the Immigration and Refugee Board. As a result, the Board has been above 95 percent of its full complement since November 2009.

In partnership with provinces and territories, we launched the *Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications*, which will improve the recognition of foreign credentials and facilitate the integration of internationally trained newcomers into the Canadian labour market. In continuing to advance our foreign credential recognition efforts overseas, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) will assume responsibility for the delivery of in-person orientation services, under the Canadian Immigration Integration Project, in India, China and the Philippines starting in October 2010, and in the United Kingdom in 2011.

Enhancements to language training and other settlement programs will also help newcomers settle in Canada and participate fully in all aspects of Canadian society. We launched a pilot project to test whether directly receiving a language training voucher raises awareness and uptake of language training by eligible newcomers. We also re-issued the *Welcome to Canada* publication and began substantial revisions and updates to the settlement information provided to newcomers.

In addition, we sought to increase civic memory and participation, promote a sense of belonging to Canada, and strengthen the value and meaning of Canadian citizenship. To help achieve these objectives, we introduced *Discover Canada*, our popular new citizenship study guide with content and an associated knowledge test that focus on Canadian history, institutions and values, as well as the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

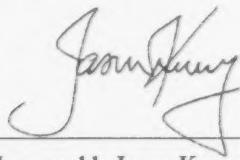
In 2009, we also put in place new objectives for the Multiculturalism Program: building an integrated, socially cohesive society; improving the responsiveness

of institutions to the needs of a diverse population; and actively engaging in discussions on multiculturalism at the international level. The new focus of the program emphasizes fostering intercultural understanding, citizenship, civic memory and pride, respect for core democratic values grounded in history, and equal opportunity for all Canadians.

These efforts demonstrate our ongoing commitment to meeting Canada's immigration needs, upholding Canada's humanitarian tradition, and building an integrated society by helping newcomers settle and succeed.

I want to thank everyone at CIC for helping make these and other achievements possible. Together, we are building Canada's future prosperity by welcoming industrious, talented and hardworking newcomers who share our dream of a true north strong and free.

For more information on CIC and the work we are undertaking, please visit our website at www.cic.gc.ca.



The Honourable Jason Kenney, PC, MP
Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism

Introduction

The *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*¹ came into effect on June 28, 2002, replacing the *Immigration Act of 1976*. Under section 94 of the Act (see Annex A of this report), the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) is required to table an annual report in Parliament on the Department's immigration activities and initiatives. The report focuses on the selection of foreign nationals as permanent and temporary residents during the preceding calendar year. The legislation also requires an overview of federal–provincial/territorial agreements and joint initiatives, as well as a gender-based analysis of the impact of the Act. In addition, the report serves as a vehicle for announcing Canada's immigration plan for the upcoming calendar year.

This report is divided into five sections.



SECTION 1 presents a brief overview of the current context of Canada's immigration program and provides a summary of Canada's immigration levels plan for 2011.

SECTION 2 summarizes activities and initiatives regarding the selection of permanent and temporary residents. It also provides key statistics relating to permanent and temporary residents admitted in 2009.

SECTION 3 focuses on CIC's partnerships with the provinces and territories. It outlines the bilateral agreements currently in force between the federal government and provincial and territorial governments, and describes major joint initiatives.

SECTION 4 provides a brief overview of settlement and resettlement programs and activities relating to Canadian citizenship.

SECTION 5 describes CIC's framework for gender-based analysis, highlights gender-based analysis activities and provides a statistical overview of gender differences in relation to key immigration statistics.



¹ The Act can be found at <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/I-2.5/20091020/index.html>.

SECTION 1

Making Immigration Work for Canada

Throughout Canada's history, immigrants have played a pivotal role in shaping its social, cultural and economic development. Canada is among the world's major immigrant-receiving countries, welcoming approximately 250,000 permanent residents and over 200,000 temporary foreign workers and international students on an annual basis. Canada is also an international leader in migration management and respected for its long-standing commitment to protecting refugees and persons in need of humanitarian assistance.

Immigration is essential to Canada's economic development and plays a significant role in shaping Canadian society. CIC's challenge is to manage this movement of people while balancing economic, social and cultural development goals, and also protecting the health, safety and security of Canadians. In the face of considerable volumes of applicants in both the temporary and permanent immigration streams, CIC continues to explore strategies to manage the multiple priorities and goals of the immigration program and ensure Canada remains a destination of choice for talent, innovation, investment and opportunity.

The Action Plan for Faster Immigration¹ was introduced in the fall of 2008 and has resulted in significant progress toward the achievement of the Government of Canada's immigration goals. Changes to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* in February 2008 allow CIC to return unprocessed applications that are not aligned with Government of Canada objectives. Previously, CIC was obligated to process all applications, resulting in a federal skilled worker backlog of 640,000 people at its peak. The Ministerial Instructions issued in November 2008² focus the processing of new federal skilled worker applications on the applicant's ability to work in Canada, either because of arranged employment or prior experience in Canada as a student or temporary foreign worker, or based on skill and experience in one of the in-demand occupations. As a result of these

changes, as of March 31, 2010, CIC has reduced the pre-February 27, 2008, backlog of federal skilled worker applications by over 40 percent, to 374,827, and issued more than 27,000 visas for new applications received after that date. The total federal skilled worker inventory, which includes those applications received both before and after February 27, 2008, has been reduced by 16 percent. However, rising volumes of new federal skilled worker applications prompted an exploration of options to update the Ministerial Instructions to ensure sustained progress on the Action Plan for Faster Immigration. Discussions with provinces and territories, as well as consultations with key stakeholders and the public, were instrumental to the development of the second set of Ministerial Instructions, published in the *Canada Gazette* on June 26, 2010.³

CIC continued to consider requests for humanitarian and compassionate considerations. In addition, a public policy was developed to support special immigration measures to facilitate immigration to Canada for certain local staff supporting the Canadian military mission in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Following the January 12, 2010, earthquake in Haiti, CIC introduced special immigration measures⁴ for those directly and significantly affected. CIC reunited families affected by the earthquake through early admissions and priority processing measures, and successfully united more than 200 children in the adoption process with their adoptive parents in Canada. These efforts to unite persons in situations of distress with their family members in Canada are part of the humanitarian tradition that CIC upholds.

In addition to the Department's operational efforts, CIC plays a lead role in advancing Government of Canada positions and activities related to the emerging global conversation on international migration policy. The Department works with representatives of foreign governments and international stakeholders in presenting and promoting Canadian positions on

¹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/releases/2008/2008-11-28.asp.

² For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/backgrounders/2008/2008-11-28a.asp.

³ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/releases/2010/2010-06-26.asp.

⁴ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/releases/2010/2010-01-16.asp.

migration issues. This involves direct participation in, or support for, roughly 80 international migration-related events each year. Of particular note in this regard is the recently created Global Forum on Migration and Development, which represents a new global level of discussion on migration issues.

CIC continued to work with a range of partners on key issues related to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. CIC and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, in consultation with the Canada Border Services Agency, prepared a package of regulatory amendments⁶ to establish authorities to help improve worker protection and ensure employer compliance with program requirements. Subsequent regulatory amendments to the Live-in Caregiver Program⁷ further improved protection for these temporary foreign workers.

While maintaining historically high levels of immigration, CIC contributes to protecting the health, safety and security of Canadians by establishing admissibility policies and screening foreign nationals for permanent and temporary residency.

In 2009, the Department, in collaboration with the Canada Border Services Agency and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, advanced work on sharing biometric information under an international information-sharing framework known as the Five Country Conference. Based on a series of memoranda of understanding with the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia, Canada can share approximately 3,000 fingerprint records per year for matching against the immigration fingerprint holdings of these other countries (the fifth country, New Zealand, is not yet participating in data sharing). The initial results show that 43 percent of shared Canadian fingerprint records have a matching record with the immigration and

refugee databases in the United States. In 2010, Canada and the United States have been seeking authority to process more cases, given the high client match rate experienced to date.

Canada continues to maintain one of the world's largest refugee resettlement programs, reflecting Canadians' long-standing humanitarian tradition of offering protection to the displaced and persecuted. Canada has played a leading role in bringing international attention to, and advancing the international discussion on, protracted refugee situations—situations of displacement for long periods of time with no prospect of solution. In 2009, Canada worked very closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and with other states to draft the High Commissioner's Executive Committee Conclusion on Protracted Refugee Situations.⁸ Canada worked closely with other resettlement countries to bring about a lasting solution to over 100,000 Bhutanese refugees who have been living in camps in Nepal for almost 20 years. Close to a thousand Bhutanese were resettled in 2009 as part of Canada's multi-year commitment to bring 5,000 Bhutanese refugees to Canada. In response to ongoing domestic and international appeals for additional resettlement support to Iraqi refugees, the Department committed to increasing the number of resettlement spaces available for this population. In 2009, Canada resettled over 4,000 Iraqi refugees. The private sponsorship community is a vital partner for this and other resettlement initiatives.

As well, the Department continued to work with partners to ensure that its asylum program is being delivered efficiently and effectively, while developing policy and program options to streamline the current asylum system.

⁶ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english//department/media/releases/2009/2009-10-09a.asp.

⁷ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english//department/media/releases/2009/2009-12-12.asp.

⁸ For more information, see www.unhcr.org/4b332bca9.html.

Canada's Immigration Plan for 2011

The immigration levels plan for 2011 reflects Canada's long-term vision for immigration and recognizes the importance of immigration to Canada's economic growth and prosperity. In addition, the plan fulfils the objectives of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* to reunite families and reflects Canada's increased international commitments and humanitarian obligations.

This year's plan indicates the number of skilled immigrants being selected (principal applicants) and the estimated number of spouses and dependants they would bring. Federal economic categories (Federal Skilled Worker, Business Class, Canadian Experience Class and Live-in Caregiver) have been combined to create greater flexibility for CIC's application processing network. This added flexibility will allow the network to shift resources from one category to another to respond to changing operational pressures. Additionally, because provinces and territories are increasingly involved with the selection of economic immigrants, this year's plan identifies economic immigrants according to the government responsible for their selection or nomination: the Government of Canada or provinces and territories.

The levels plan reflects growing commitments in the economic, social and humanitarian streams. In particular, the admissions range for federal economic immigration has been reduced to permit further growth in the Provincial Nominee Program. CIC has made progress to date on key commitments in the Federal Skilled Worker category, and is seeing modest growth in the Canadian Experience Class, which is expected to continue in 2011. In the Family Class, spouses, partners and children admissions are expected to return to historical levels in 2011 while admissions in the parents and grandparents category are expected to remain stable. The levels plan incorporates the first year of a three-year plan to increase the number of refugees settled in Canada, announced with the introduction of the *Balanced Refugee Reform Act*. Also, following recent appointments at the Immigration and Refugee Board, resulting in more cases being processed, the range for protected persons in-Canada and their dependants abroad has been increased. As a result, Canada's total planning range for the Protected Persons Class is higher than last year.

Table 1: Immigration Levels Plan 2011

| Immigrant Category | 2011 Plan Target Ranges | |
|---|-------------------------|----------------|
| | Low | High |
| ECONOMIC CLASS | | |
| Federally Selected Economic Class* | 74,000 | 80,400 |
| Principal Applicants † | 33,200 | 36,600 |
| Spouses and Dependents † | 40,800 | 43,800 |
| Provincially Selected Economic Class* | 76,600 | 80,900 |
| Principal Applicants † | 31,900 | 33,800 |
| Spouses and Dependents † | 44,700 | 47,100 |
| Provincial Nominee Program | 42,000 | 45,000 |
| Principal Applicants † | 17,500 | 18,800 |
| Spouses and Dependents † | 24,500 | 26,200 |
| Quebec-selected Skilled Workers and Business | 34,600 | 35,900 |
| Principal Applicants † | 14,400 | 15,000 |
| Spouses and Dependents † | 20,200 | 20,900 |
| Subtotal Economic Class—Principal Applicants | 65,100 | 70,400 |
| Subtotal Economic Class—Spouses and Dependents | 85,500 | 90,900 |
| Total Economic Class | 150,600 | 161,300 |
| FAMILY CLASS | | |
| Spouses, Partners and Children | 45,500 | 48,000 |
| Parents and Grandparents | 13,000 | 17,500 |
| Total Family Class | 58,500 | 65,500 |
| PROTECTED PERSONS | | |
| Government-assisted Refugees | 7,400 | 8,000 |
| Privately Sponsored Refugees | 3,800 | 6,000 |
| Protected Persons In-Canada | 8,200 | 10,500 |
| Dependants Abroad of Protected Persons In-Canada | 3,800 | 4,500 |
| Total Protected Persons | 23,200 | 29,000 |
| OTHER | | |
| Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds/Public Policy | 7,600 | 9,000 |
| Permit Holders | 100 | 200 |
| Total Other | 7,700 | 9,200 |
| TOTAL | 240,000 | 265,000 |

*This year admission projections for economic immigration are being presented based on selecting and/or nominating jurisdiction because the direct involvement of provinces and territories in economic immigration has grown. Under the *Canada–Quebec Accord Relating to Immigration and Temporary Admission of Aliens*, the Government of Quebec has responsibility for selecting immigrants destined to its province, and other jurisdictions participating in the Provincial Nominee Program have the responsibility to nominate foreign nationals for permanent resident status.

†The number of principal applicants and spouses and dependants is estimated based on historical averages, and is included for illustrative purposes only.

Managing Permanent and Temporary Immigration

CIC maintains a balanced immigration program that responds to Canada's labour market needs while fostering family reunification, honouring Canada's humanitarian commitments and traditions, and protecting the health, safety and security of Canadians. Canada's immigration program is based on non-discriminatory principles—foreign nationals are assessed without regard to race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or gender.

In 2009, CIC continued to fulfil its role of identifying applicants for permanent or temporary status who could pose security or health risks to Canadians. CIC continues to work in partnership with the Canada Border Services Agency, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Public Safety Canada, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the Department of Justice and Health Canada.

Permanent Residents

The *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* defines three basic classes of permanent residents: Economic, Family and Protected Persons. Permanent residents are persons who have not become Canadian citizens, but have been authorized to live and work in Canada indefinitely, provided that they meet residency requirements and do not lose their status by reason of serious criminality, security, human rights violations, organized crime or misrepresentation.

Economic Class

The Economic Class⁹ includes federal and Quebec-selected skilled workers, federal and Quebec-selected business immigrants, provincial and territorial nominees, the Canadian Experience Class, and live-in caregivers, as well as their immediate family members.

The first set of Ministerial Instructions, which identified the immigration applications that are given priority processing as part of the Action Plan for Faster Immigration, had its first full year of operation in 2009.

Results indicate that key objectives of the Action Plan are being met.

- As of March 31, 2010, the number of people in the backlog of federal skilled workers—those who submitted applications prior to February 27, 2008—had been reduced by over 40 percent; CIC is well on track to achieving a 50-percent reduction by 2013. The total federal skilled worker inventory—those received both before and after February 27, 2008—has been reduced by 16 percent.
- While the Department continued to issue visas (58,281 in 2009) for applications in the federal skilled worker stream received prior to February 27, 2008, a growing number of federal skilled worker applications meeting labour market needs identified in the Ministerial Instructions are being processed as well. As of March 31, 2010, over 27,000 visas were issued for applications received on or after February 27, 2008.
- Centralization of the intake of federal skilled worker applications has resulted in clients getting an initial indication of the status of their application more quickly and has increased consistency in data collection and fee handling. These measures have allowed the Department to process the majority of new federal skilled worker applications in six to 12 months.

Family Class

Family reunification remains a key objective of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. To facilitate the reunification of families, Canadian citizens and permanent residents may sponsor Family Class immigrants¹⁰—spouses or partners, dependent children, parents, grandparents and other close relatives—to become permanent residents. Sponsors must demonstrate the ability to take financial responsibility for their family members with a sponsorship undertaking for a specified period of time. In 2009, CIC initiated the process to make regulatory changes to strengthen the Department's capacity to refuse cases of suspected marriage fraud. Proposed changes were prepublished in the *Canada Gazette* on April 3, 2010.

⁹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-01.asp#economic.

¹⁰ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-01.asp#family.

Protected Persons

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,¹¹ there were about 10.4 million refugees in the world at the end of 2009, many of whom have been living in exile for decades. By offering protection to refugees and persons in need of protection,¹² and through active participation in international fora on refugee protection, CIC plays a significant role in upholding Canada's international obligations and humanitarian tradition. Canada actively participates each year in all United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Standing Committee and Executive Committee meetings. Canada participated in the High Commissioner's Dialogue on International Protection, which focused on urban refugees in 2009.

Canada resettled more than 12,000 government-assisted refugees and privately sponsored refugees in 2009, an increase of more than 1,500 from the previous year. The Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program¹³ is a key component of Canada's refugee resettlement program, whereby Canadian citizens and permanent residents can come together to sponsor refugees for resettlement in Canada. In 2009, as a result of the hard work of sponsors and Canada's commitment to increase resettlement available to Iraqi refugees, Canada exceeded its private sponsorship target by resettling over 5,000 refugees under this program. A national conference in 2009 brought together sponsorship agreement holders to identify and discuss challenges, and find ways to improve sponsors' ability to work with each other and with the Department, with a view to strengthening the program.

As well, Canada granted permanent residence to almost 7,000 individuals who requested asylum on or after their arrival in Canada and were found to be in need of protection, along with over 4,000 of their dependants abroad. The Immigration and Refugee Board is an independent tribunal responsible for determining claims for asylum made in Canada. The Government has made significant progress in filling vacancies on the Board. From April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010, there were 35 appointments and

25 reappointments, with the result that the Board was at 98 percent of its full complement of members by the end of March 2010.

The volume of asylum applications in 2009 showed a 10-percent decrease over 2008. The reduction is mainly attributed to the amendment of regulatory provisions with respect to the Canada-U.S. Safe Third Country Agreement, reinstating a temporary resident visa requirement on the Czech Republic and, for the first time, imposing a visa requirement for nationals of Mexico. These moves were prompted by asylum claims made by nationals of these countries that have, in recent years, placed substantial pressure on the asylum determination system.

The Government also made known in 2009 its desire to pursue long-awaited reforms to Canada's asylum system. Bill C-11, the Balanced Refugee Reform Act,¹⁴ was introduced to reform Canada's asylum system in Parliament on March 30, 2010, and received Royal Assent on June 29, 2010.

Active cooperation with the U.S. continued under the Safe Third Country Agreement.¹⁵ Under the Agreement, persons seeking refugee protection must make a claim in the first country they arrive in (United States or Canada), unless they qualify for an exception to the Agreement. In July 2009, Canada repealed a regulation providing an exception for nationals of countries to which Canada has suspended removals. The Canadian courts found that individuals who accessed Canada under that provision already had access to a refugee status determination program in the United States that meets international standards for refugee protection. CIC also continued to share information with the United States, on a case-by-case basis, as part of a collaboration in which the Immigration and Refugee Board can gain access to pertinent personal information on claimants in Canada that is held by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

¹¹ For more information, see www.unhcr.org.

¹² For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-04.asp#refugee.

¹³ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/sponsor/private.asp.

¹⁴ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/reform.asp.

¹⁵ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/laws-policy/menu-safethird.asp.

Permanent Resident Status on Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds

In exceptional circumstances, the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* gives the Minister the authority to grant permanent resident status to individuals and families who would not otherwise qualify in any class, in cases where there are strong humanitarian and compassionate considerations or for public policy reasons.¹⁶ The purpose of these discretionary provisions is to provide the flexibility to approve deserving cases not anticipated in the legislation. The Department carries out ongoing policy and operational analysis of the humanitarian and compassionate provision in the Act and developed a number of changes to it as part of the *Balanced Refugee Reform Act*.¹⁷

Statistical Overview of Permanent Residents Admitted in 2009

Canada's Immigration Plan for 2010, set out in the *Annual Report to Parliament on Immigration 2009*,¹⁸ indicated a target range for new permanent residents of 240,000 to 265,000. The Plan underscored the Government's commitment to balancing immigration in the Economic, Family and Protected Persons classes, and to maximizing the social and economic benefits to Canada. The Department is on track to meet its projected ranges in most categories. Periodic updates on current admissions, and the most recent quarterly figures, can be found on CIC's website.¹⁹

In 2009, a total of 252,179 people were admitted to Canada as permanent residents. Federal economic admissions fell slightly, while provincial and territorial categories and Quebec skilled workers exceeded their planning ranges. Federal skilled worker admissions

were below the planning range despite additional resources assigned to process these applications during the second half of the year. While 73,000 visas were issued for this category, exceeding planned admissions, fewer people than projected chose to come to Canada in 2009. Admissions in the live-in caregiver category have been increasing due to higher numbers of temporary foreign workers arriving to work as live-in caregivers in past years (generally, temporary live-in caregivers apply for permanent residence after two to three years in Canada). The number of Provincial Nominees has been steadily increasing in recent years, and Canada admitted a record number of immigrants in this category in 2009; admissions in this category were increased to compensate for the decline in admissions in other economic categories. The number of applications received was too low to achieve planned targets for the new Canadian Experience Class. The Department is taking steps to promote awareness of this class to potential applicants. Overall, Family Class admissions were in line with previous years but below the planned range. The number of privately sponsored refugees was higher than planned mostly due to CIC's commitment to facilitate the immigration of Iraqi refugees. In 2009, 2,547 privately sponsored refugees from Iraq were admitted, compared with 986 in 2008.

Table 2 provides a more detailed breakdown of admissions by immigration category and allows for a comparison with the 2009 target ranges. More statistical information on admissions in 2009 can be found in CIC's *Facts and Figures 2009*.²⁰

¹⁶ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-01.asp#humanitarian.

¹⁷ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/reform-changes.asp.

¹⁸ The Report can be found www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/annual-report2009/index.asp.

¹⁹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/data-release/2010-Q1/index.asp.

²⁰ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/menu-fact.asp.

Table 2: New Permanent Residents Admitted in 2009 and 2010 Levels Plan

| Immigrant Category | 2009 Plan Target Ranges | | Number Admitted 2009 | 2010 Plan Target Ranges | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| | Low | High | | Low | High |
| ECONOMIC CLASS | | | | | |
| Federally Selected | | | | 89,000 | 95,200 |
| Federal Skilled Workers | 68,200 | 72,000 | 64,611 | 75% | |
| Federal Business* | 11,000 | 12,000 | 10,845 | 10% | |
| Canadian Experience Class | 5,000 | 7,500 | 2,544 | 3% | |
| Live-in Caregivers | 8,000 | 10,000 | 12,454 | 12% | |
| Quebec-selected Skilled Workers | 28,100 | 29,100 | 31,351 | 28,400 | 29,500 |
| Quebec-selected Business† | | | 1,676 | 1,900 | 2,100 |
| Provincial and Territorial Nominees | 20,000 | 26,000 | 30,378 | 37,000 | 40,000 |
| Subtotal Economic Class—Principal Applicants | | | 64,007 | | |
| Subtotal Economic Class—Spouses and Dependents | | | 89,491 | | |
| Total Economic Class | 140,300 | 156,600 | 153,498 | 156,300 | 166,800 |
| FAMILY CLASS | | | | | |
| Spouses, Partner and Children | 50,000 | 52,000 | 48,021 | 42,000 | 45,000 |
| Parents and Grandparents | 18,000 | 19,000 | 17,179 | 15,000 | 18,000 |
| Total Family Class | 68,000 | 71,000 | 65,200 | 57,000 | 63,000 |
| PROTECTED PERSONS | | | | | |
| Government-assisted Refugees | 7,300 | 7,500 | 7,425 | 7,300 | 8,000 |
| Privately Sponsored Refugees | 3,300 | 4,500 | 5,036 | 3,300 | 6,000 |
| Protected Persons In-Canada | 7,000 | 9,000 | 7,204 | 9,000 | 12,000 |
| Dependants Abroad | 6,000 | 6,200 | 3,181 | | |
| Total Protected Persons | 23,600 | 27,200 | 22,846 | 19,600 | 26,000 |
| OTHER | | | | | |
| Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds/Public Policy | 8,000 | 10,000 | 10,522 | 7,000 | 9,000 |
| Permit Holders | 100 | 200 | 112 | 100 | 200 |
| Total Other | 8,100 | 10,200 | 10,634 | 7,100 | 9,200 |
| Category Not Stated | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 240,000 | 265,000 | 252,179 | 240,000 | 265,000 |

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

* The 2009 Levels Plan included a total figure for both Federal Business and Quebec-selected Business.

† After posting, the Government of Quebec updated the 2010 admission ranges for Quebec-selected Skilled Workers and Quebec-selected Business to 32,800–33,900 and 1,800–2,000 respectively. This increase will be accommodated within the existing total planning range.

In terms of the linguistic profile of permanent residents admitted in 2009, 92.5% percent of principal applicants self-identified as having knowledge of English, French or both official languages.

Table 3: Knowledge of Official Languages among Permanent Residents, 2009

| Immigrant Class | English | French | Both | Neither | Total |
|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Family Class | 37,792 | 2,865 | 3,091 | 21,452 | 65,200 |
| Economic Immigrants—Principal Applicants | 39,941 | 3,111 | 16,173 | 5,282 | 64,007 |
| Economic Immigrants—Spouses and Dependents | 46,471 | 5,186 | 7,523 | 30,311 | 89,491 |
| Protected Persons | 10,328 | 1,626 | 752 | 10,140 | 22,846 |
| Other Immigrants | 8,874 | 912 | 393 | 455 | 10,634 |
| Category Not Stated* | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| TOTAL | 142,907 | 13,700 | 27,932 | 67,640 | 252,179 |
| PERCENTAGE | 56% | 5% | 11% | 27% | 100% |

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

* Due to privacy considerations, some numbers in this table have been suppressed and indicated with a dash (-). As a result, components may not add up to the total indicated.

Canada receives its immigrant population from over 200 countries of origin. As indicated in Table 4, over 50 percent of new immigrants admitted in 2009 came from 10 source countries.

Table 4: Permanent Residents Admitted in 2009, by Top 10 Source Countries

| Rank | Country | Number | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1 | People's Republic of China | 29,049 | 12% |
| 2 | Philippines | 27,277 | 11% |
| 3 | India | 26,122 | 10% |
| 4 | United States of America | 9,723 | 4% |
| 5 | United Kingdom and Colonies | 9,566 | 4% |
| 6 | France | 7,300 | 3% |
| 7 | Pakistan | 6,214 | 2% |
| 8 | Iran | 6,065 | 2% |
| 9 | Republic of Korea | 5,864 | 2% |
| 10 | Morocco | 5,222 | 2% |
| Total Top Ten | | 132,402 | 53% |
| All Other Source Countries | | 119,777 | 47% |
| TOTAL | | 252,179 | 100% |

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

Temporary Residents

In addition to selecting permanent residents, CIC also processes applications for the temporary entry of:

- foreign workers who are important to Canada's economic growth;
- international students attracted by the quality and diversity of Canada's educational system; and
- visitors who come to Canada for personal or business travel.

These temporary residents contribute to Canada's economic development by filling gaps in the labour market, enhancing trade, and purchasing goods and services. As shown in Table 5, CIC processed and admitted over 260,000 temporary foreign workers and international students in 2009.

Table 5: Number of Temporary Foreign Workers and Foreign Students Admitted in 2009

| Category | Number Admitted in 2009 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Temporary Foreign Workers | 178,478 |
| International Students | 85,140 |
| TOTAL | 263,618 |

*Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.*

Temporary Foreign Workers

CIC facilitates the temporary entry of foreign workers needed to address labour market shortages and to provide other economic opportunities for Canadians, such as job creation and the transfer of new skills and knowledge. Temporary foreign workers²¹ help meet the short-term and acute needs in the labour market that could not easily be filled by the domestic labour force. CIC works with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada to ensure that the admission of foreign workers does not adversely affect employment opportunities for Canadian citizens or permanent residents.

In response to labour market demand, and further to the Government of Canada's commitment in Advantage Canada²² to making improvements to the Temporary Foreign Worker Program to respond to employer needs, Canada welcomed 178,478 temporary foreign workers in 2009. This is a decrease of 7 percent from 2008 (192,281), and the first year of decrease since 2003, demonstrating the responsiveness of the program to reduced demand from employers for foreign workers in 2009. Arrivals of foreign workers with work permits that do not restrict employment by

occupation or employer, including the International Exchange Canada program, which allows foreign and Canadian youth to travel and work internationally, increased by 11.5 percent (from approximately 52,000 in 2008 to 58,000 in 2009). Without the increases in this group, the decrease in arrivals of temporary foreign workers would have been approximately 14 percent (from 140,300 to 120,500).

International Students

International students²³ bring with them new ideas and cultures that enrich the learning environment within Canadian educational institutions. International students who enter Canada on temporary resident visas may also be an important source of future immigrants since they are well-prepared for the Canadian labour market. The number of foreign students entering Canada in 2009 was over 85,000, a rise of 7 percent from the previous year's total of just over 79,500.

In collaboration with its partners, CIC continued to successfully deliver key initiatives to help Canada maintain its competitive edge in attracting and retaining international students by providing them

²¹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-02.asp#workers.

²² For more information, see www.fin.gc.ca/ec2006/plan/pltoc-eng.asp.

²³ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-02.asp#students.

with opportunities to obtain the Canadian work experience needed to apply for permanent resident status through the Canadian Experience Class. Important vehicles for accomplishing this include the Off-Campus Work Permit Program, a national program that allows certain international students to seek employment off campus, and the Post-Graduation Work Permit Program, which allows graduates from participating post-secondary institutions to gain valuable Canadian experience for up to three years. In 2009–2010, CIC issued over 16,400 off-campus permits and more than 18,300 post-graduation permits, demonstrating the success of these permit programs for international students.

In 2009, CIC continued to deliver on Budget 2008 commitments to modernize the immigration system by extending additional on-line application services to international students and their spouses already in Canada. On-line applications are now available for study permit and study permit extensions in Canada, off-campus work permits, post-graduation work permits, and work permits for spouses of international students.

Tourists and Business Visitors

Tourists contribute to the economy by creating a demand for services in the hospitality sector, and business visitors allow Canadian businesses to benefit from their specialized expertise.²⁴ Under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, every foreign national wishing to visit Canada must have a temporary resident visa before arriving in Canada unless they are from countries specifically exempted in the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*, or unless they benefit from certain other limited exceptions, for example, being members of the diplomatic corps (i.e., accredited diplomats). As of March 31, 2010, citizens from 148 countries require temporary resident visas to visit Canada.²⁵ In 2009, CIC processed applications (new and extensions) from over one million persons seeking temporary resident visas as tourists and business visitors to Canada, and issued visitor visas, permits and extensions to 789,859 persons.

Temporary Resident Permits

Subsection 24(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* authorizes designated officers to issue temporary resident permits to foreign nationals whom they believe are inadmissible or who do not meet the requirements of the Act. These permits are issued when there are compelling reasons to admit an otherwise inadmissible individual into Canada. In exercising their discretion, decision makers must take into consideration any instructions issued by the Minister under subsection 24(3), and weigh the risk to Canada against the reason for permitting temporary residence. Issued for a limited period and subject to cancellation at any time, temporary resident permits give CIC the flexibility to address exceptional circumstances or cases affecting the national interest.

Guidelines issued in May 2006 and June 2007 allow immigration officers to issue a temporary resident permit to victims of human trafficking. An initial short-term permit, which may be issued for up to 180 days, provides victims with a period of reflection to escape the influence of their trafficker and consider their options, including pursuing immigration avenues or returning home. A longer-term permit, valid for up to three years, may be issued to a victim of trafficking in cases where individual circumstances warrant. In 2009, 37 temporary resident permits were issued to victims of trafficking. This figure includes subsequent permits issued to the same victim to maintain legal status in Canada.

Table 6 indicates the number of temporary resident permits issued in 2009, categorized according to grounds of inadmissibility under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. In 2009, 15,640 permits were issued, with approximately 6.5 percent (1,023) representing permits issued to foreign nationals who continued to maintain their status as permit holders from within Canada. Of the total, 595 temporary resident permits were issued under instruction of the Minister. The remaining permits were authorized by departmental officials. The authority to issue temporary resident permits is shared between delegated CIC officials and Canada Border Services Agency officers working at ports of entry.

²⁴ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-02.asp#visitors.

²⁵ The list of countries can be found at www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp.

Table 6: Temporary Resident Permits Issued from January 1 to December 31, 2009

| Description of Inadmissibility | Provision under the <i>Immigration and Refugee Protection Act</i> | Number of permits |
|---|--|----------------------|
| Security (espionage, subversion, terrorism) | 34(1)(a), (b), (b), (d), (e) and (f) | 32 |
| Human or International Rights Violations | 35(1)(a), (b) and (c) | 23 |
| Serious Criminality (convicted of an offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of at least 10 years) | 36(1)(a), (b) and (c) | 880 |
| Criminality (convicted of a criminal act or of an offence prosecuted either summarily or by way of indictment) | 36(2)(a), (b), (c) and (d) | 6,619 |
| Organized Criminality | 37(1)(a) or (b) | 8 |
| Health Grounds (danger to public health or public safety, excessive burden) | 38(1)(a), (b) and (c) | 162 |
| Financial Reasons (unwilling or unable to support themselves or their dependants) | 39 | 30 |
| Misrepresentation | 40(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) | 10 |
| Non-compliance with Act or Regulations (no passport, no visa, work/study without permit, medical/criminal check to be completed in Canada, not examined on entry, etc.) | 41(a) and (b) | 7,512 |
| Inadmissible Family Member | 42(a) and (b) | 248 |
| No Return without Prescribed Authorization | 52(1) | 116 |
| TOTAL | | 15,640 |

Source: Field Operations Support System (as of January 11, 2010).

Note: The statistics in this table include the number of temporary resident permits used to enter or remain in Canada in 2009.

Federal–Provincial/Territorial Partnerships

Jurisdiction over immigration is a joint responsibility under section 95 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, and effective collaboration between the Government of Canada and the provinces and territories is essential to the successful management of the immigration program. Provincial and territorial governments are CIC's primary partners, and the shared goal is to make immigration programs responsive to the unique economic, social and labour market needs of each province and territory. Under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* and the *Department of Citizenship and Immigration Act*, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Canada has the authority, with the approval of the Governor in Council, to sign agreements with the provinces and territories to facilitate the coordination and implementation of immigration policies and programs. Table 7 provides a list of the key bilateral agreements currently in force, with their signing and expiry dates.²⁶

Framework agreements with eight provinces and one territory highlight immigration as a key area for bilateral collaboration and formalize how governments work together on this issue. Agreements for a Provincial Nominee Program are also in place

with 11 jurisdictions (Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and all provinces except Quebec), either as an annex to a framework agreement or as a stand-alone agreement. Under the Provincial Nominee Program, provinces and territories have the authority to nominate individuals as permanent residents to address specific labour market and economic development needs. Under the Canada–Quebec Accord, Quebec has full responsibility for immigrant settlement and integration services, as well as for setting annual immigration targets and selecting immigrants. The federal government is responsible for establishing eligibility criteria for settlement programs in the other provinces and territories, reunifying families, determining refugee claims within Canada, defining immigration categories, setting national immigration levels, and establishing admission requirements.

In August 2009, the *Canada–Northwest Territories Agreement on Provincial Nominees* was signed. Negotiations also continued in 2009 on the *Canada–British Columbia Immigration Agreement* and an extension to the *Canada–Ontario Immigration Agreement*.

²⁶ For more information see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/laws-policy/agreements/index.asp.

Table 7: Federal-Provincial/Territorial Agreements Currently in Force

| Agreement | Date Signed | Expiry Date |
|---|---|--|
| <i>Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Agreement on Provincial Nominees</i> | November 22, 2006 (Original signed in September 1999) | Indefinite |
| <i>Agreement for Canada-Prince Edward Island Co-operation on Immigration</i> | June 13, 2008 (Original signed in March 2001) | Indefinite |
| <i>Agreement for Canada-Nova Scotia Co-operation on Immigration</i> | September 19, 2007 | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-New Brunswick Agreement on Provincial Nominees</i> | January 28, 2005 Amended: March 29, 2005 (Original signed in February 1999) | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-Quebec Accord Relating to Immigration and Temporary Admission of Aliens</i> | February 5, 1991 | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement</i> | November 21, 2005 | November 21, 2010; extension of the Agreement expires on March 31, 2011 |
| <i>Canada-Manitoba Immigration Agreement</i> | June 6, 2003 (Original signed in October 1996) | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-Saskatchewan Immigration Agreement</i> | May 7, 2005 (Original signed in March 1998) | Indefinite |
| <i>Agreement for Canada-Alberta Cooperation on Immigration</i> | May 11, 2007 | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-British Columbia Immigration Agreement</i> | April 9, 2010 (Original signed in May 1998) | April 8, 2015 |
| <i>Agreement for Canada-Yukon Co-operation on Immigration</i> | February 12, 2008 (Original signed in April 2001) | Indefinite |
| <i>Canada-Northwest Territories Agreement on Provincial Nominees</i> | August 5, 2009 | Indefinite |

Table 8: Permanent Residents Admitted in 2009, by Destination and Immigration Category

| Category | NL | PE | NS | NB | QC | ON | MB | SK | AB | BC | YT | NT | NU | Not Stated | Total |
|---|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------------|
| ECONOMIC CLASS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Skilled Workers | 140 | 28 | 729 | 291 | 31,351 | 41,640 | 599 | 383 | 8,666 | 12,085 | 12 | 34 | 4 | 0 | 95,962 |
| Business Immigrants | 0 | 1 | 87 | 12 | 1,676 | 4,030 | 25 | 31 | 219 | 6,075 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12,159 |
| Provincial and Territorial Nominees | 180 | 1,532 | 833 | 1,167 | 80 | 1,271 | 10,151 | 5,031 | 5,325 | 4,708 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30,378 |
| Live-in Caregivers | 4 | 2 | 23 | 13 | 1,392 | 6,143 | 117 | 82 | 1,996 | 2,662 | 8 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12,454 |
| Canadian Experience Class | 1 | 2 | 18 | 15 | 15 | 1,754 | 12 | 11 | 326 | 385 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 2,544 |
| Total Economic Class (including dependants) | 325 | 1,565 | 1,690 | 1,498 | 34,514 | 54,838 | 10,904 | 5,538 | 16,532 | 25,915 | 123 | 52 | 4 | 0 | 153,498 |
| FAMILY CLASS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spouses, Partners, Children and Others | 66 | 441 | 232 | 7,744 | 22,803 | 1,107 | 547 | 5,895 | 9,000 | 39 | 36 | 5 | 0 | 48,021 | |
| Parents and Grandparents | 10 | 4 | 38 | 19 | 1,123 | 10,332 | 252 | 81 | 1,701 | 3,611 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 17,179 |
| Total Family Class | 116 | 70 | 479 | 251 | 8,867 | 33,135 | 1,359 | 628 | 7,596 | 12,611 | 41 | 42 | 5 | 0 | 65,200 |
| PROTECTED PERSONS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Government-assisted Refugees | 138 | 74 | 123 | 116 | 1,881 | 2,492 | 490 | 368 | 944 | 798 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7,425 |
| Privately Sponsored Refugees | 6 | 2 | 20 | 6 | 334 | 2,788 | 576 | 244 | 623 | 437 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5,036 |
| Protected Persons In-Canada | 1 | 2 | 15 | 4 | 1,227 | 5,194 | 17 | 18 | 428 | 297 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7,204 |
| Dependants Abroad | 0 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 615 | 5,177 | 15 | 16 | 242 | 101 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,181 |
| Total Protected Persons | 145 | 79 | 166 | 132 | 4,057 | 12,651 | 1,098 | 646 | 2,237 | 1,633 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 22,846 |
| OTHER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Humanitarian and Compassionate Grounds/ Public Policy | 17 | 9 | 89 | 32 | 2,025 | 6,180 | 157 | 78 | 647 | 1,266 | 10 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10,522 |
| Other* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 62 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 112 |
| Total Other | 17 | 9 | 89 | 32 | 2,055 | 6,242 | 159 | 78 | 652 | 1,279 | 10 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 10,634 |
| Category Not Stated | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 603 | 1,773 | 2,424 | 1,913 | 49,493 | 106,867 | 13,520 | 6,890 | 27,017 | 41,438 | 174 | 107 | 10 | 0 | 252,179 |
| PERCENTAGE | 0.2 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 19.6 | 42.3 | 5.4 | 2.7 | 10.7 | 16.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 100 |

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

* "Other" includes post-determination refugee claimants, deferred removal orders and temporary resident permit holders.

SECTION 4

Integration of Newcomers and Canadian Citizenship

The successful settlement and integration of new immigrants is an important objective of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*. Immigration is fundamental to the development of Canada's economy, society and culture, and Canada strives to be a world leader in maximizing its benefits. To create a stronger nation benefiting both newcomers and Canadians, Canada is one of the few countries with a managed immigration program directed toward newcomers ultimately becoming full citizens.

Settlement

Settlement refers to the short-term transitional issues faced by newcomers, while integration is an ongoing process of mutual accommodation between an individual and society. CIC's Settlement Program²⁷ assists immigrants and refugees with overcoming challenges specific to the newcomer experience (e.g., lack of official language skills and limited knowledge of Canada) so that they can participate in the social, cultural, civic and economic life of Canada. The program accomplishes this goal by providing language learning services for newcomers, community and employment bridging services, settlement information, and support services that facilitate access to settlement programming.

Each year, eligible newcomers have access to settlement services and programs delivered by service providers such as community-based organizations funded through formal contribution agreements with the Department. CIC-funded settlement programs and services include language instruction and skills development, information and orientation, and initiatives to support social engagement, community connections and labour market participation. Through federal-provincial agreements,²⁸ British Columbia, Manitoba and Quebec assume direct responsibility for the design, administration and delivery of settlement programs and services to newcomers who settle in these provinces, but are expected to achieve outcomes comparable to those of CIC programs.

Considering the vital importance of newcomers' language abilities in their successful integration, a summative evaluation of CIC's largest language training program was undertaken in 2009. The Department also began enhancing language assessment within the Settlement Program, developing a standardized test, designing a field test for a new method of measuring student progress, and working toward a single coordinated language assessment and referral system for newcomers to Ontario. CIC also strengthened its French-language programming by introducing a comprehensive placement tool, and by piloting on-line French classes. Newcomers are normally informed of the availability of language training by service providers, through advertising, the Internet and word of mouth. CIC also launched a pilot in October 2009 to test whether directly receiving a language training voucher raises awareness and uptake of language training by eligible newcomers.²⁹ The effectiveness of the pilot project, which ends in early 2011, will be evaluated by comparing the number of people who take training after receiving a language training voucher to the number of people who take training without having a voucher.

The Department reissued the Welcome to Canada³⁰ publication and began to substantially revise and update the settlement-related information CIC provides to newcomers on-line, in print and in person. CIC funded two predeparture orientation projects, the Canadian Orientation Abroad project and the Active Engagement and Integration project, which were delivered in person to a total of 14,804 individuals in 2009. Human Resources and Skills Development Canada funded the Canadian Immigration Integration Project, which provided predeparture orientation to an additional 2,667 individuals. Under the Welcoming Communities Initiative, CIC continued to fund projects in 2009 aimed at fostering settlement and integration activities.

²⁷ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-05.asp.

²⁸ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/laws-policy/agreements/index.asp.

²⁹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/media/releases/2009/2009-10-16.asp.

³⁰ The publication can be found at www.cic.gc.ca/english//resources/publications/welcome/index.asp.

During the year, the Department also approved support for additional local immigration partnerships, which are agreements between municipalities and local stakeholders to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and collaborative strategy for the settlement and integration of newcomers to their communities. As a result of a recent management review, it was decided that the overall settlement funding envelope, which has more than tripled in recent years, should be slightly reduced. Starting in 2011–2012, the overall settlement funding envelope for all provinces except Quebec, which has a separate funding agreement, will decrease by approximately 8 percent. CIC has now launched a review of settlement programs to ensure the ongoing significant investments help achieve positive settlement outcomes for newcomers and meet the needs of Canada. CIC will work with provinces and territories to minimize the impact on the level of services for newcomers.

CIC also continued working with its federal, provincial, territorial and community partners to implement the *2006 Strategic Plan to Foster Immigration to Francophone Minority Communities*.³¹ Initiatives seeking to recruit, integrate and retain Francophone immigrants into minority communities included the Destination Canada annual recruitment initiative, economic development activities and the implementation of immigration networks. The 2006 Plan's target was to attract and retain 4.4 percent of French-speaking immigrants to communities outside Quebec. This proportion represents the percentage of Francophone Canadians outside of Quebec in 2001. Since then, an interim target of 1.8 percent was set for 2013 and a timeline of 2023 was set for the 4.4-percent target. In 2009, 0.8 percent of new permanent residents had French as their mother tongue. CIC commissioned research to understand where French-speaking immigrants are settling, and is implementing new data collection tools to allow more accurate capture of the number of French-speaking newcomers.

CIC also offers financial support and immediate essential services to help government-assisted refugees resettle in Canada and integrate into Canadian society. Through the *Resettlement Assistance Program*,³² the Government ensures the delivery of essential services (such as reception services at the port of entry, temporary accommodation, assistance in finding permanent accommodation and financial orientation) through contribution agreements with *service provider organizations*.³³ This program also provides income support for up to 12 months after arrival in most cases, and up to 24 months for refugees with special needs, such as victims of trauma or torture.

In 2009, CIC continued to implement a modernized settlement approach that focuses on newcomer outcomes. Efforts to engage organizations delivering CIC-funded settlement programs to discuss implementation issues included national consultations and the development of an advisory body. With support from *Canada's Economic Action Plan*,³⁴ and in collaboration with provinces and territories, CIC's *Foreign Credentials Referral Office*,³⁵ and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's Foreign Credential Recognition Program launched the *Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications*,³⁶ on November 30, 2009. The Framework sets out a common approach to providing timely and consistent assessment and recognition processes of foreign credentials, beginning overseas where feasible, to facilitate the integration of internationally trained individuals into the Canadian labour market.

Canadian Citizenship

The acquisition of citizenship is a significant step in the integration process of newcomers. Granting citizenship to eligible applicants provides established newcomers with the full range of rights and encourages them to fulfil the responsibilities of citizenship. Citizenship acquisition also fosters a greater sense of belonging to Canada and allows newcomers to share a broader sense of community with all Canadians while supporting their full participation in all aspects of Canadian society.

³¹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-05.asp#francophone.

³² For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-04.asp#rap.

³³ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/spo.asp.

³⁴ For more information, see www.actionplan.gc.ca/eng/index.asp.

³⁵ For more information, see www.credentials.gc.ca.

³⁶ For more information, see www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/publications/fcrpcf.shtml.

In 2009, approximately 164,750 applications for citizenship were processed, resulting in 156,250 individuals becoming Canadian citizens. The 2009 target for processing applications for citizenship was not met and is lower than the number of applications processed in 2008 and 2007. Various factors led to this decrease, including the introduction of a new citizenship test, which led local offices to focus on reducing their testing inventory, as well as facility challenges at two local offices, which have since been resolved, but decreased the number of client appointments scheduled in 2009. Processing capacity for applications remains at 170,000 while annual application intake averaged 232,000 between 2007 and 2009.

In 2009, 75,450 applications for citizenship certificates (proofs of citizenship) were issued to existing citizens. CIC was able to exceed the target for processing citizenship certificates for existing citizens in 2009 due to additional funding of \$3.5 million made available in 2009–2010. Pressures on citizenship certificate processing remain, as annual application intake averaged over 57,250 between 2007 and 2009, and, without additional funding, annual capacity for processing certificates would return to 38,000 applications. However, with the remaining additional funding as well as a departmental funding reallocation, the 2009 processing capacity will be maintained in 2010.

CIC is continuing to explore measures to address capacity issues as a result of the growing inventory of applications for citizenship and citizenship certificates, including measures to streamline processing using web-based tools.

In 2009–2010, CIC introduced a Citizenship Action Plan, a set of integrated initiatives that aim to strengthen the integrity of the Citizenship Program.³⁷

The Action Plan will enhance the value and meaning of Canadian citizenship by strengthening civic memory, civic participation and sense of belonging to Canada. The program has introduced a new citizenship study guide and associated knowledge test that have greater focus on Canadian history, institutions and values, as well as the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The test is being monitored and adjustments may be made in the fall of 2010 when the test will be updated to align with planned regulatory amendments. In addition to enhancing citizenship ceremonies, new citizenship promotional materials were developed and are now being distributed to all new Canadians at citizenship ceremonies.

The study guide for Canadian citizenship was revised and launched in November 2009. Entitled *Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship*, the guide provides a broad overview of the key people, events and accomplishments that define Canada. The guide also focuses on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Meant primarily for citizenship applicants, all Canadians can benefit from *Discover Canada* as an important resource for citizenship education in Canada. *Discover Canada* has been very popular since its release and has received generally positive response from the media and general public. To date, approximately 300,000 printed copies of the guide have been distributed, with on-line and audio version downloads further increasing the reach of the guide.³⁸

In addition, the Multiculturalism Program supports the Government's effort to enhance the value of Canadian citizenship. Its new objectives, introduced in September 2009, emphasize fostering intercultural understanding, citizenship, civic memory and pride, respect for core democratic values grounded in history, and equal opportunity for all Canadians.

³⁷ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/department/paa/activity-06.asp#tphp.

³⁸ The print, on-line and audio versions of the guide are available at: www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/discover/index.asp.

The Citizenship Program also continued administering various promotional activities such as Celebrate Citizenship Week, the Canada's Citizenship Award (formerly called the Citation for Citizenship), reaffirmation ceremonies and citizenship ceremonies, of which 429 (22%) were special ceremonies held in the community.

Furthermore, in January 2010 a departmental lead was appointed to deal with fraud in the Citizenship Program. A departmental citizenship fraud action plan was drafted to assess and address program integrity through communications to staff and partners, adjustment to procedures, and the consideration of legislative changes.

In April 2009, CIC implemented amendments to the *Citizenship Act* introduced the previous year. The amendments restored citizenship to many persons who lost it under previous legislation, recognized other

persons as citizens for the first time, and introduced a limit to citizenship by descent to one generation born outside of Canada. To support effective client service and implementation of the amendments, CIC developed supporting regulations, information system changes, application kits and forms, training materials, communication products, and policy and program manual updates. CIC also undertook a proactive, web-based outreach to connect with stakeholders and members of the groups affected by the new law. As citizenship legislation is complex, an on-line self-assessment tool was implemented early in 2009 to coincide with implementation of the legislative amendments to assist with client service.

SECTION 5

Gender-Based Analysis of the Impact of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act

Since the introduction of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* in 2002, CIC has been committed to incorporating gender-based analysis (GBA) into its policy and program development processes. While the Act stipulates that CIC must provide an annual GBA on the impact of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, the range of GBA activities conducted within CIC goes beyond this legislative requirement. CIC's current approach to GBA is outlined in its *Strategic Framework for Gender-Based Analysis* (2005–2010), which describes the Department's objectives and identifies practical steps to progressively strengthen GBA capacity.

To further the Department's past accomplishments, a renewed GBA unit will review the strategic policy framework for GBA, including key achievements and challenges faced over the past five years. Based on the outcomes of the review, CIC will identify new opportunities to integrate GBA within the Department's legislative, policy and operational activities.

Gender-based Research

CIC continues to gather sex-disaggregated data in support of its policy and program development. The Department's key annual publication, *Facts and Figures: Immigration Overview—Permanent and Temporary Residents*,³⁹ is a primary source of immigration statistics for the Government, its partners and the private sector. It presents the annual intake, by calendar year, of permanent and temporary residents by category of immigration. The publication contains statistical tables and charts providing gender-based information for permanent residents by immigrant category, source country, intended destination on arrival in Canada, age at landing, level of education,

marital status, language ability, occupational skill level and intention to work. *Facts and Figures* also provides a gender breakdown by principal applicants and dependants, which can be further analyzed to better understand the status of men and women in these specific categories.

GBA at CIC is also supported by current and relevant research conducted through the secretariat of the *Metropolis Project*,⁴⁰ an international network for comparative research and public policy development on migration, diversity and immigrant integration in cities in Canada and around the world. To provide CIC with an evidence base to inform its policies and programs, the Metropolis Project continued to support gender-based research by academic affiliates out of the five Metropolis Centres of Excellence, by way of research reports, publications, public seminars, and conference plenary and workshop sessions. The following is a brief sample of these knowledge transfer activities related to gender-based research.

- Working papers:
 - [Trafficking in Persons and Transit Countries: A Canada–U.S. Case Study in Global Perspective](#);⁴¹
 - [Immigrant Youth and Crime: Stakeholder Perspectives on Risk and Protective Factors](#);⁴²
 - [Impact of Canadian Postsecondary Education on Recent Immigrants' Labour Market Outcomes](#);⁴³ and
 - [A Preliminary Investigation of the Contributions of Sponsored Parents and Grandparents in Canada](#).⁴⁴
- The [12th National Metropolis Conference](#) in Montréal in March 2010,⁴⁵ which focused on immigration and inclusion with special attention to economic development and the meeting of cultures, included the following workshops with gender themes:

³⁹ For more information, see www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/statistics/menu-fact.asp.

⁴⁰ For more information, see www.metropolis.net.

⁴¹ This publication can be found at <http://nbc.metropolis.net/assets/uploads/files/wp/2010/WP10-05.pdf>.

⁴² This publication can be found at http://pmc.metropolis.net/frameset_e.html.

⁴³ This publication can be found at http://ceris.metropolis.net/frameset_e.html.

⁴⁴ This publication can be found at http://atlantic.metropolis.net/WorkingPapers/VanderPlaat_Ramos_Yoshida_WP25.pdf.

⁴⁵ For more information, visit the conference website at www.metropolis2010.net.

- Gender-Based Analysis as a Tool for Immigration Policies, Programs and Services;
- Transition from School to Work: Experiences, Strategies and Trajectories of Youth from Immigrant Families;
- Conflict and Violence in Immigrant Families; and
- Protection Services for Survivors of Human Trafficking: A View from the Americas.

Gender-based Analysis in Policy and Program Development

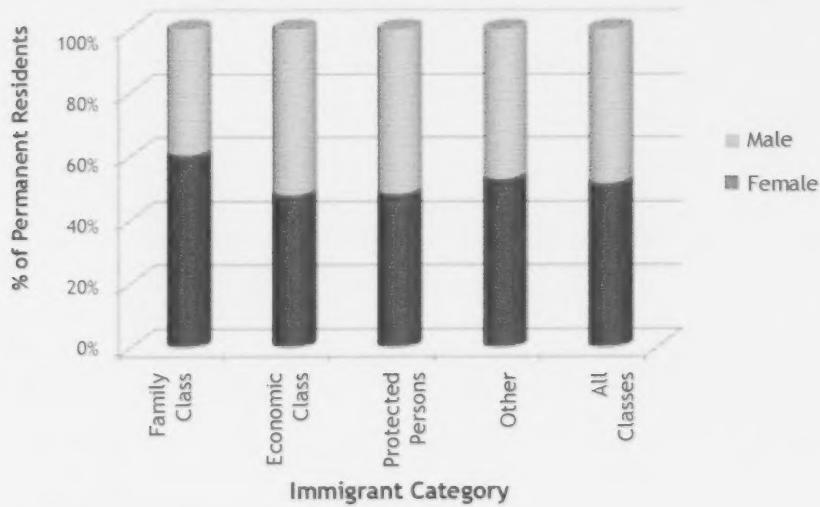
To understand the gender impacts of CIC programs and policies, it is important to see the distribution of arrivals by gender across all immigration categories. Charts 1 and 2 show arrivals by sex and immigration category from 2001 to 2009.

Chart 1: Distribution of Permanent Residents by Immigrant Category and Sex, 2001-2009



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

Chart 2: Permanent Residents by Immigrant Category and Sex, 2001-2009

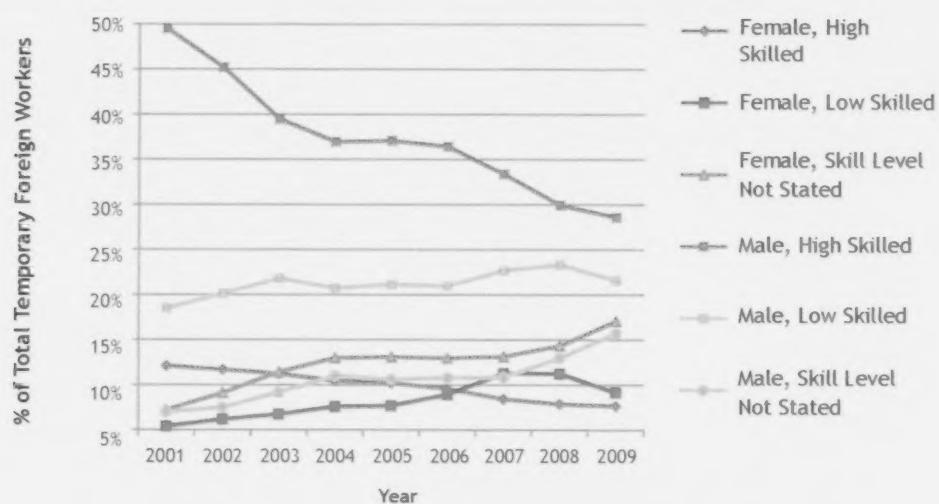


Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

Between 2001 and 2009, the distribution between men and women in the category of temporary foreign workers changed (Chart 3). The proportion of female temporary foreign workers steadily increased, from 25 percent in 2001 to 34 percent in 2009. While this represents roughly 30,000 more women entering under this program, women continue to represent only one-third of temporary foreign workers. The percentage of highly skilled male temporary foreign workers decreased from 49.5 percent in 2001 to 28.6 percent in 2009, while the percentage of male low-skilled workers remained relatively steady. It is important to note that, in real terms, this decrease represents fewer than 10,000 people. This shift can also be partially explained by an increase in the share of temporary foreign workers who do not declare their

skill level. Two examples of programs that contributed to this increase are the Youth Exchange Program and granting of work permits for spouses or common-law partners. These programs have given individuals, mostly women, additional opportunities to work under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program. This is reflected in the fact that women's representation under these categories has risen appreciably; for the Youth Exchange Program they have gone from over 7,000 cases in 2001 to more than 20,000 in 2009, while the number of women who were issued work permits as spouses or common-law partners increased from roughly 900 in 2001 to over 7,000 in 2009. Analysis on the impacts of these trends will continue over the next year.

Chart 3: Temporary Foreign Workers by Occupation Skill Level and Sex, 2001-2009



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

Initiatives undertaken by CIC may have influenced the above-mentioned trends. For example, evidence to date suggests that the Ministerial Instructions issued in November 2008 have had a positive impact on female principal applicants. A preliminary GBA is under way to understand what effects the new criteria had on the gender balance in the Federal Skilled Worker Program in 2009. Early results indicate a small but positive increase in both the percentage of applications submitted by female principal applicants, as well as the number of visas eventually issued to women in the Federal Skilled Worker Program when compared with data from previous years.

For federal skilled workers who received visas in 2009, female and male principal applicants under the Ministerial Instructions showed different occupational

distributions. The top five occupations for women are primarily in areas of education, financial management and nursing; the top five for men are in the areas of information technology, education, financial management and health-care professionals (physicians). Beyond the difference in the top five occupations, an interesting trend highlighted in Table 9 is that of relative concentration. In the case of women, the top five occupations represent 72.2 percent of total female principal applicants under the Federal Skilled Worker Program, whereas they represent only 56.6 percent for men.

Table 9: Top Five Occupations for Visas Issued in 2009 for Federal Skilled Worker Female and Male Principal Applicants

| Occupation | Male | Female |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| College and Other Vocational Instructors | 8.8% | 22.1% |
| Registered Nurses | - | 19.1% |
| Computer and Information Systems Managers | 16.7% | - |
| Financial Auditors and Accountants | - | 12.7% |
| University Professors | 10.8% | 11.5% |
| Specialist Physicians | 9.9% | - |
| Financial Managers | 10.4% | 6.8% |
| TOTAL | 56.6% | 72.2% |

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, *Facts and Figures 2009*.

Current and Ongoing GBA Initiatives

With the recent implementation of Bill C-11, the *Balanced Refugee Reform Act*, CIC plans to conduct an evaluation of Canada's new asylum system in three years. This will include an assessment of the pilot programs and progress on backlog reduction. Concurrently, a GBA will be conducted to assess the impact of these changes on men and women. CIC is also developing a performance measurement framework for Canada's refugee resettlement program that will include indicators produced as a result of gender and diversity considerations. The evaluation of the Government-assisted Refugee Program and Resettlement Assistance Program will ensure, to the extent possible, that data collection and analysis will allow for comparison of client outcomes by gender, level of need, age, language, country of origin, region of destination, program design and delivery approach.

Gender considerations continue to be reflected within CIC information products for newcomers. For example, the Department's emphasis in its flagship publications of the importance of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship includes respect for the equality between men and women. CIC initiated a Settlement Information Renewal Exercise in December 2009 with the aim of substantially revising the settlement-related information CIC provides to newcomers (in print, on-line and in person). The objective is to ensure that this information is relevant, well-organized, timely and consistent across all delivery mechanisms, as well as aligned with

information provided by other federal departments. Gender considerations of the specific information needs of men, women and children are reflected in the renewed settlement content. New settlement products are under development and will include a greater emphasis on the health needs of women, and a clear explanation of the individual rights and freedoms of women, men and children under Canadian law, including how to access community and government resources to deal effectively with family violence, and to access temporary shelters, legal representation and police services.

Work is also underway on the development of a child-minding policy to complement changes to the terms and conditions for CIC's settlement services. Child-minding services support parents interested in participating in CIC settlement services, many of whom are women. Changes will include making child minding available to those who most need it, supporting the range of CIC settlement services that require child minding, and ensuring that child-care workers are properly recognized and supported in their roles with newcomer children.

With CIC's continued commitment to GBA, the Department can expect increased awareness and understanding about issues related to immigrant, refugee and visible minority women, men and their families, and how these can influence its programming and policies.

Conclusion

Immigration is a defining feature of Canada's development as a nation and its path to the future. Much of what Canada stands for today has been built on and shaped by immigrants of the past, and newcomers will continue to significantly contribute to Canada's economic prosperity in decades to come. CIC is strongly committed to recruiting the best and the brightest people to meet the current and emerging demands of the Canadian labour market, while also reaching out to help those most in need and successfully integrating all newcomers on arrival in Canada.

In 2009, CIC successfully reduced its backlog of federal skilled worker applications by implementing the regulatory changes and Ministerial Instructions issued the previous year. Regulatory amendments will also improve the protection of workers under the

Temporary Foreign Worker Program, and collaborative efforts with provinces and territories will improve the recognition of foreign credentials to facilitate labour market integration. CIC continued to contribute to the global humanitarian effort by resettling those who are most in need of protection, including refugees from Bhutan and Iraq, while also pursuing long-awaited reforms to Canada's asylum system. Enhancements to language training and other settlement programs will facilitate the integration of newcomers, and the new Citizenship Action Plan will enhance the value of Canadian citizenship. These efforts are part of an ongoing commitment to meet the economic, social and cultural needs of Canada, to uphold its humanitarian tradition, and to make immigration work for Canada today and in the future.

ANNEX A:

Section 94 of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*

The following extract from the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, which came into force in 2002, outlines the requirements for CIC to prepare an annual report to Parliament on immigration.

Reports to Parliament

94. (1) The Minister must, on or before November 1 of each year or, if a House of Parliament is not then sitting, within the next 30 days on which that House is sitting after that date, table in each House of Parliament a report on the operation of this Act in the preceding calendar year.

(2) The report shall include a description of

(a) the instructions given under section 87.3 and other activities and initiatives taken concerning the selection of foreign nationals, including measures taken in cooperation with the provinces;

(b) in respect of Canada, the number of foreign nationals who became permanent residents, and the

number projected to become permanent residents in the following year;

(b.1) in respect of Canada, the linguistic profile of foreign nationals who became permanent residents;

(c) in respect of each province that has entered into a federal-provincial agreement described in subsection 9(1), the number, for each class listed in the agreement, of persons that became permanent residents and that the province projects will become permanent residents there in the following year;

(d) the number of temporary resident permits issued under section 24, categorized according to grounds of inadmissibility, if any;

(e) the number of persons granted permanent resident status under each of subsections 25(1), 25.1(1) and 25.2(1); and

(f) a gender-based analysis of the impact of this Act.

